

Serial No. 10/034,124
Amendment dated April 15, 2004
In Reply of Office Action dated October 15, 2003

Amendments to the Claims:

This claim listing will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 (currently amended). A cart for engaging, supporting, and transporting an object, said cart [,] comprising:

- a) a body;
- b) a wheel attached to said body;
- c) a swivel point provided on said body;

d) a substantially circular support ring freely rotatably attached to said swivel point on said body, said substantially circular support ring including a center, and said substantially circular support ring being configured for engaging, supporting, and transporting an object; and

e) said substantially circular support ring including a mouth for enhancing the flexibility thereof;

f) said substantially circular support ring being attached to said swivel point at a location on said ring between the center of the ring and the mouth; and

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g) ~~d)~~ said support ring freely rotating relative to said body when said cart is in use engaging, supporting, and transporting an object.

2(cancelled).

3(original). A cart as in Claim 1, wherein:

a) a handle is attached to said body.

4(original). A cart as in Claim 3, wherein:

a) an extension is provided between said handle and said body, and the handle extends transversely relative to the extension.

5(original). A cart as in Claim 4, wherein:

a) said handle extends away from said wheel.

6(original). A cart as in Claim 1, wherein:

a) said wheel includes first and second spaced apart wheels.

7(original). A cart as in Claim 1, wherein:

a) said support ring is sufficiently flexible so that said support ring can accommodate different objects.

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8(cancelled).

9(previously presented). A cart as in Claim 1, wherein:

a) a lock is provided for selectively restricting movement of the freely rotatably attached support ring when an object is engaged by said support ring for lifting the object off a floor.

10(original). A cart as in Claim 9, wherein:

a) a handle is attached to said body; and
b) said lock includes a chain having a hook, said hook being disposed on said handle for securing said chain.

11(original). A cart as in Claim 10, wherein:

a) said hook includes an s-hook provided on said chain; and
b) said s-hook is configured for engaging a brake drum supported by said support ring.

12(original). A cart as in Claim 11, wherein:

a) a block is provided on said support ring, said block being sufficiently large for reducing the effective inner diameter of the support ring.

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13(original). A cart as in Claim 12, wherein:

a) said block is detachably attached to said support ring.

14(previously presented). A cart as in Claim 12, wherein:

a) said block includes a plurality of blocks.

15(original). A claim as in Claim 12, wherein:

a) said block is provided on the interior of said support ring.

16(cancelled).

17(currently amended). A cart as in claim 3 ~~16~~, wherein:

a) said mouth has an open portion, and said open portion faces away from said handle.

18(currently amended). A cart for engaging, supporting, transporting, and disengaging from an object, said cart[,]
comprising:

- a) a body;
- b) a wheel attached to said body;
- c) a swivel point provided on said body;

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d ~~c~~ a substantially circular support ring freely rotatably attached to said swivel point on said body, said substantially circular support ring including a center, and said substantially circular support ring being configured for engaging, supporting, and transporting an object;

e said support ring freely rotating relative to said body when said cart is in use engaging, supporting, and transporting an object.

f ~~e~~ said support ring including a mouth for enhancing the flexibility thereof;

g ~~f~~ said mouth having an open portion, and said open portion facing away from said handle ; and

h ~~g~~ said mouth and said support ring being configured and disposed so that when an object is engaged by the support ring and transported, the support ring is freely rotatable about the swivel point, the support ring is disposed in a substantially upright position, the mouth facing substantially upwardly, and a weight of an object engaged by the support ring presses downwardly on said flexible support ring and away from the mouth.

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19(original). A cart as in Claim 18, wherein:

a) a block is provided on said support ring, said block being sufficiently large for reducing the effective inner diameter of the support ring.

20(currently amended). A cart claim as in Claim 18, wherein:

a) said block is detachably attached to the interior of said support ring.

21(cancelled).

22(new). A cart as in claim 1, wherein:

a) a lock is provided for selectively restricting movement of the freely rotatably attached support ring when an object is engaged by the support ring for lifting the support ring off a floor, the lock being configured for allowing the freely rotatably attached support ring to move substantially freely during transporting of the object engaged by the support ring.

23(new). A cart as in claim 18, wherein:

a) said swivel point is disposed directly adjacent the mouth.

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24(new). A cart as in claim 1, wherein:

a) said swivel point is disposed directly adjacent
the mouth.